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VOL. XII

36, SEPTEMBER 16, 1965

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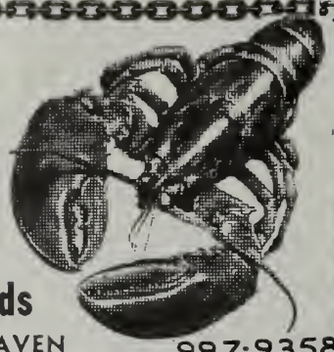
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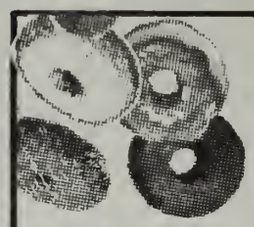
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CLOSED MONDAY RT.6 HUTTLESTON AVE. FAIRHAVEN

SCHOOL SITE BEING CLEARED

Two buildings on the site of the new elementary school in Mattapoisett have been demolished as an initial step in preparing the grounds for the building. Plans and specifications are now at the Mattapoisett Town Hall.

Selectmen received a request from Dr. Helen Mitchell to check on parking congestion at Park Street at North Street. Investigation will be made.

A letter was received from Mr. Richard Prouty suggesting that a fence be installed between his property and Veterans Memorial Park. He stated that improper use of his property was being made by picnicers, bathers and parkers. The request will be referred to the annual Town Meeting.

WOMAN'S CLUB MEETING

The Rochester Woman's Club held its first Fall meeting Wednesday evening, September 8th, presided over by its president, Mrs. Everett L. Hardy.

Guest speaker of the evening was Mrs. Gabriel B. More, third district director of the Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs. A charming person and interesting speaker, Mrs. More was attractively gowned in a black sheath dress on which the president

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pinned an attractive corsage. Highlights of some of the future programs were reviewed, and the question, "Why Do We Pay Federation Dues?" was answered. An interesting fact noted was that there are thirteen clubs in the district which have given 63,358 hours of time to community projects.

Mrs. More brought as her guest, Mrs. Preston of the Somerset Woman's Club, to which she also belongs.

The Rochester Woman's Club will sponsor classes in slipcovers to be presented by Miss Phyllis Brightman of the Plymouth County Extension Service. Classes will meet every Thursday evening in the club hall for six weeks.

An afghan was finished and shown by Mrs. Winslow for the veterans.

A rummage sale will be held October 23rd at the club hall.

The hall was attractively decorated with bouquets of roses, petunias and zinnias. Re-

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freshments of sandwiches, cake and coffee were served by the committee comprised of Mrs. Alphonse Raymond, Mrs. Abraham Jackson, Mrs. Roger Wood and Mrs. Henry B. Hartley.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR GIRL SCOUTS

The Service Team of the Mattapoisett Neighborhood Association has been busy this Summer organizing leadership for the various Girl Scout Troops. As promised, leadership training is again being made available for every adult interested in Girl Scouts, whether or not one is at present planning active participation. Leadership training is an all-inclusive term which covers all the aims and practices of Scouting, the mechanics of troop management, programs for various age levels, responsibilities of leaders and troop committees--and especially the importance of the latter to a successful troop.

Training will be given next week on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, from 9 to 12:30 in the Fellowship Room of the Congregational Church in Mattapoisett. Registration will be at 9:00, coffee will be served, followed at 9:30 by training which will start promptly. All leaders and troop committee members are urged to take this training. Each session will offer something different. There will be another meeting the following Thursday, September 30, and the final one will be a month later on October 28, after troop meetings have begun.


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Pre-registration is required in order that the trainers may know how many to plan for. If you plan to come, please call Mrs. George Silsby, 758-2279, or Mrs. Tore Saether, 758-2965, no later than September 18.

LIONS DONATE TO SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Eugene T. Sheets, president of the Mattapoisett Lions Club, on the right, is shown as

he presented the Lions Club check to the Citizens' Scholarship Foundation's president, Harry Locke. The presentation was made at the Lions

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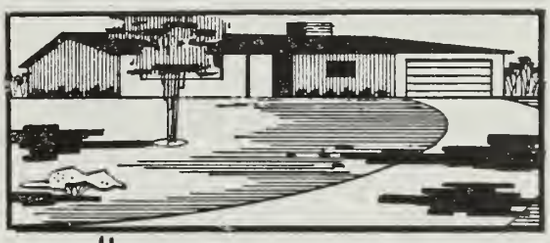

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Club meeting held last Wednesday at the Harbor Beach Club. In making the donation Mr. Sheets emphasized that the successful drive was a project of past president, Evangelo Vangel, who initiated it and carried it through during his term. Mr. Locke expressed his pleasure and thanks on behalf of the Citizens' Scholarship Foundation, Old Rochester Chapter, which is aiding many of the area's youngsters in their pursuit of higher education.

FOOTBALL FESTIVAL

Football fans in the area will have been looking forward to the fourth annual Football Festival which is to be held this Friday night, September 17th, at 8 P.M. at the Wareham High School field. Wareham High and Old Rochester Regional High will meet Fairhaven High and Dartmouth High Schools.

This annual event has grown into a most popular contest. The teams are well matched and this is the first chance of the season to display skills which they have been sharpening in pre-season practice. The pairing allows for all out fast paced football with fresh players going all out both on offense and defense. The past events promise a good brand of high school ball.

The teams will be paired as follows: first period, Wareham vs. Dartmouth; second period, Old Rochester vs. Dartmouth; third period, Old Rochester vs. Fairhaven; and fourth period, Wareham vs. Fairhaven.

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Rte. 6 Mattapoisett at the Herring Weir 758-6775

In case of postponement, the game will be played Saturday, September 18, at 8 P.M.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM AT ORRHS

On Thursday evening, September 16, 1965, at 8 P.M. in the Gilbert D. Bristol auditorium at the Old Rochester Regional High School there will be an instrumental music demonstration and discussion of the instrumental music program in the various schools of the district. Mr. Zavan Mazmanian will speak on the various phases of an instrumental music program, and Mr. John Pandolfi will explain a program for renting musical instruments.

There will also be a musical instrument demonstration for the elementary school children in the morning of the same day. The demonstration will be at 9 A.M. at the Sippican School, Marion; 10 A.M. at the Memorial School in Rochester; and 11 A.M. at the Center School in Mattapoisett.

All persons interested in the program are cordially requested to attend.

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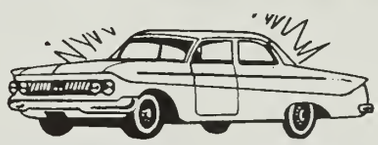
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POLLUTED AREA UNDER INVESTIGATION

Men from the Department of Natural Resources have been checking the sources of pollution which has caused the waters from Ned's Point Light east to Pine Neck Bay to remain close to shell fishing.

A letter from the Division of Sanitary Engineering to the Selectmen had stated that examination by an engineer showed that the area is subject to pollution from many sources located on the streams which flow into Crescent Beach. Examination of quahog samples showed bacterial pollution in excess of allowable limits according to the letter. Several sites at Crescent Beach and drainage ditches located near cottages may be the sources of the pollution.

Mattapoisett Board of Health officials together with the men from the Department of Natural Resources are now investigating the area in order to clean up these sources and rid the area of the pollution.

SUBORDINATE GRANGE

Members of the Mattapoisett Grange are asked to come and help on the hall clean-up project this Wednesday, September 15th, at 1:30 P.M.

The bi-monthly whist party for the painting fund will be held this Thursday afternoon at 1:30 in the Grange Hall. All are welcome.

The 1966 officers of the Mattapoisett Grange will be installed this Thursday night


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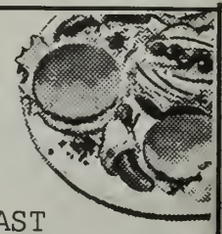

Wareham Plaza
9 to 5:30 Daily Thursday and Friday 9 to 9

Coburn BROTHERS

by Gilbert Collins and his suite.

The next Monday night public whist party will be held at 8 o'clock in the Grange Hall September 20th. Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel LeBaron and Mrs. Ruby Barber are the hosts.

# Years Ago

By C. M.

150 Years Ago -- 1815

THE GREAT HURRICANE OF 1815

The "Great Gale of 1815," or the "September Hurricane," as it was later called, was the first mammoth hurricane in two centuries to smash into Buzzards Bay from the Southeast. One had struck in the time of the Pilgrims (1636), but since there was then no Mattapoisett, there had been no damage to man-made construction. In the intervening 200 years plenty of hurricanes had roared up the Atlantic, but they either had veered out producing tremendous northeast gales,

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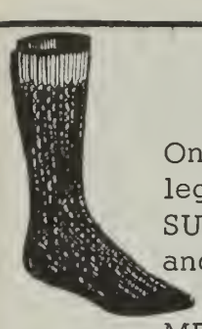

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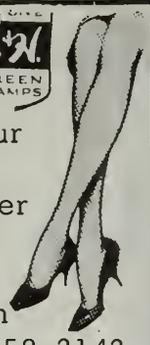

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or had not increased beyond an ordinary southeast gale.

But on September 23 of 1815 one of the giants with which we are now so familiar smashed into the village and almost put the shipbuilding and shipping businesses out of business. The old accounts sound so much like those of 1938, 1954 and 1960, yet with significant differences. For one thing, there were no cottages at the beaches, so there was no damage of that sort whatsoever. But there were salt works sprawled along the shore--at Aucoot, Point Connett, Crescent Beach, all around the harbor, and on the Necks. These were totally destroyed. But the greatest difference--and greatest damage--came to the shipbuilding and shipping industries along the waterfront. When shipyard buildings and shops, stacks of lumber, half-built ships on the ways, along with vessels at anchor and at the wharves, all landed along Water Street and up beyond the present Town Hall corner--the mess was worse than anything we have seen in our time.

"The gale commenced early in the morning," the old accounts begin. "The wind veered to SE and increased in violence. About 8 or 9 o'clock the tide became on a sudden (high tide for that day was 11:30) as high as the highest spring tides and continued to increase in height with surprising velocity. At about 10 o'clock the tide water had covered all the English mowing lands. The wind veered from SSE to S and blew with amazing violence." By 12 o'clock the tide was nine feet higher than any other high tide.

"Then followed this hurricane, a sul-


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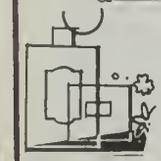

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phurous blasting vapor which all the leaves on the trees (were) so blighted as to have the appearance of fire running over them. Such wind was never known on this coast before by any of the inhabitants."

"The spray while the tide was rising resembled a driving snowstorm. Grass was entirely killed, not a green blade to be seen. The leaves of trees appeared as if they had been scorched. Several cedar swamps perished from the salt water. Most of the bushes perished also."

"Theophilus Pease, aged seventy-three, having repaired to a small island at Mattapoisett during the gale, to preserve some hay, soon saw his dangerous situation. Having a pitchfork in his hand, and a line in his pocket, he lashed the fork across the limbs of a tree, which he selected, and stood upon it about six hours, partly in the water, until the tide ebbed. There were only three or four trees on the island, all of which were carried away by the flood but the one he selected; a remarkable instance of preservation."


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**FRIDAY, SEPT. 17, 1964**

**8 P.M.**

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The irony of this hurricane was doubly bitter, for the War of 1812 had come to an end the previous winter, business was brisk--and then, "in Mattapoisett 3 or 4 large vessels building on the stocks were driven into the


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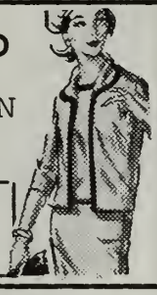

street, two ropewalks, several stores and houses were destroyed, all of their salt works, and a great amount of salt was lost." ("Large vessels" meant whalers of 350 tons.) Orchards, buildings, fences, woods, even stone walls were blown down.

"Coasting vessels were scattered about, mostly driven high on shore. Some of them floated into the forest. One lodged among the trees in an upright position and was later relaunched."

Strange as it may seem, a salt works was destroyed on the land on which now stands the Mattapoisett Historical Museum; for all the land from there down beyond the Town Hall corner is filled land, and at that time a salt marsh made up as far as Baptist Street.

Since every household had its own well, the old accounts dwell at length on well-water becoming salt; and fresh water was a scarcity. Some wells remained salt until November, some until the first snows, some for a year and a half.

The hurricane was half responsible for the building of the third meeting house, now the Grange Hall. By 1815 the center of the town had very definitely shifted to the present village, and there was already much complaint about having to walk every Sunday up to the old church at John Jenny's Corner (corner River Road and Acushnet Road)--which had also become too small. The hurricane blew the roof off the old meeting house and settled that question once and for all.

MATTAPOISETT WOMAN'S CLUB MEETING

"The Trail You Leave In Ink" will be the subject of featured speaker, Mr. Louis G. Thackeray at the first meeting of the Mattapoisett Woman's Club, September 23rd, at 2 P.M. in the Congregational Church parish hall. Mr. Thackeray is a Grapho-Analytical Psychogist, a member of the International Grapho-Analysis Society of Springfield, Missouri. For years he was a successful sales manager and was a former member of the Haverhill, Massachusetts Industrial Commission.

Grapho-Analysis is the science and art of ascertaining thought habits and character traits of an individual from specimens of his handwriting.

His fascinating program will be comprised of an introduction to Grapho-Analysis,

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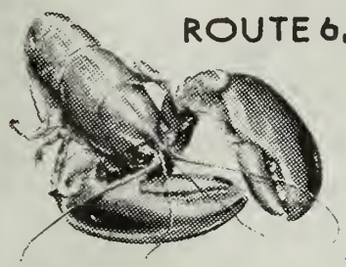
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what it is, and where it is used. During the program he will make analyses of the members of the audience.

Mrs. Leonard A. Burnham, president, will preside at the business meeting.

AMERICAN HOME GROUP MEETING

The American Home group of the Mattapoisett Woman's Club will meet Tuesday, September 21st, at 9:30 A.M. at the antique shop of Mrs. Joseph Mendes, Marion Road, Mattapoisett. Mrs. Mendes will show and speak on some of her antiques. Also, anyone attending who owns some pieces of old china, glass, etc. may bring them and Mrs. Mendes will explain their origins.

NEW QUARTERS FOR SIPPICAN PROD. DIV.

The Sippican Corporation, Marion, Mass. has announced the leasing of facilities in Mattapoisett, Mass. for the firm's Commercial Products Division.

Mr. Richard M. Steigerwald, Division Manager, said the the facilities will provide sufficient space for manufacture of the Sippican Welder and associated products. Included in the facilities will be laboratory areas for materials and joining studies, as well as equipment engineering and servicing.

Sippican's main plant in Marion will utilize the former product facilities for expansion of its electronic and electromechanical assembly operations.

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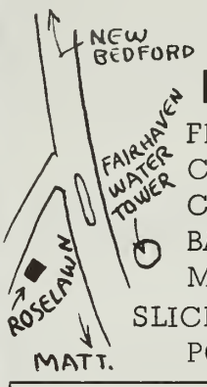

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JUNIOR GRANGE

The Mattapoisett Junior Grange held its meeting Friday night with the worthy master, William Sylvia, presiding. A report of the annual Penny Fair was given by the master of $51. He also thanked all who gave and helped to make it so successful.

It was also noted with regret that several Junior members are moving away from Mattapoisett and will no longer be members of this Junior Grange.

At the next meeting, September 24th, officers to be replaced will be Ceres, Flora, lady assistant steward and a member of the executive committee.

A letter of appreciation was read from Mr. and Mrs. James Harris and family for the plant sent to them from the Juniors.

The lecturer's program was presented by David Roberts, introducing William Smith of the Subordinate Grange. He showed slides of the Rose Bowl parade, Disneyland and many other interesting pictures of his travels.

Ice cream and cookies were served at the close of the evening.

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FRANK FONTAINE HEADS BENEFIT

Frank Fontaine, better known to countless television viewers as "Crazy Guggenheim" on Jackie Gleason's American Scene Magazine, will present an all star review at 8 P.M. September 19th, at Lincoln Park for the benefit of St. Mary's Church, North Fairhaven, building fund.

Mr. Fontaine is scheduled to fly with his cast from Miami, where he will appear on the September 18th Jackie Gleason premiere show of the 1965-66 season.

The Massachusetts comedian and singer began his career at 15 when he first brought another of his famous character "John L. C. Sivoney," to life for neighborhood youngsters. When he was 16, he won a Major Bowes Ama-

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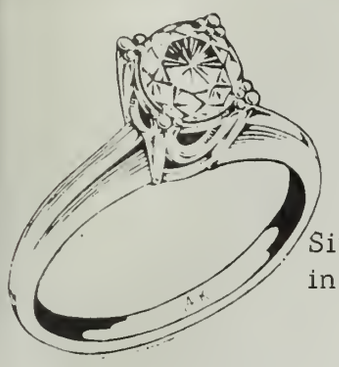

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teur Hour competition with his impressions.

Noted for his many charitable performances, Mr. Fontaine received his start in television 10 years ago, while rehearsing for a part in the American Scene Magazine. Jackie Gleason heard him sing, and his career in the "Joe the Bartender" sketch was launched.

Mr. Fontaine's singing style is nostalgic and his credits include a dozen movies, appearances in leading night clubs throughout the country and guest appearances on every major network. His home is in Winchester.

The Fontaine's 15-year old daughter, Alma, one of 11 children, has been credited with changing the style of her father's singing to include songs for the young, as well as their parents.

PROGRAM AT MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

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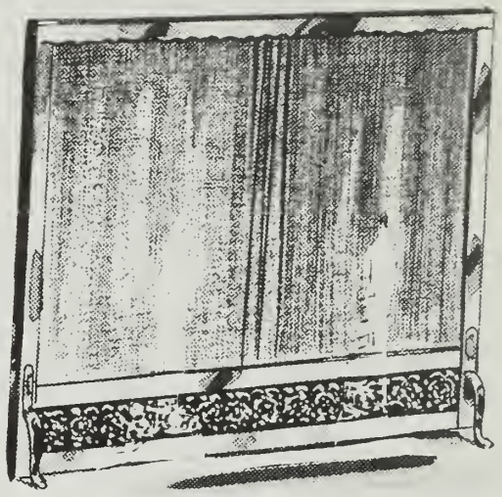

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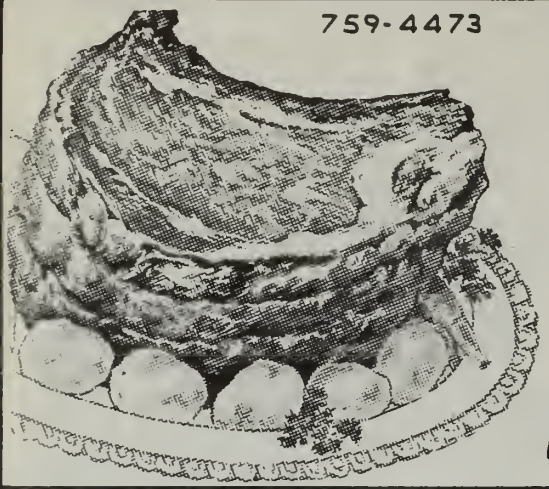

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Both Marion Art Center and the Sippican Historical Society have been asked to cooperate in this coming event. Advance reservations are necessary and must be made by this Wednesday, September 15th.

APPEAL DENIED

Mattapoisett Board of Appeals Friday night denied the application of David E. Frawley, Jr., Water Street, to subdivide his property into two lots, not meeting the measurements required by the town zoning laws.

TIDES

| | High | | Low | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sept. | AM | PM | AM | PM |
| 16 | ---- | 12:22 | 5:12 | 5:57 |
| 17 | 0:46 | 1:19 | 6:01 | 6:55 |
| 18 | 1:49 | 2:24 | 6:59 | 8:05 |
| 19 | 2:57 | 3:32 | 8:09 | 9:26 |
| 20 | 4:05 | 4:36 | 9:28 | 10:46 |
| 21 | 5:07 | 5:36 | 10:48 | 11:50 |
| 22 | 6:03 | 6:30 | 11:58 | ----- |

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